

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 01415 01 OF 02 291834Z

53

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

/136 W

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O R 291824Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7759

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

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PAGE 02 LONDON 01415 01 OF 02 291834Z

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY BANGUI
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AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMCONSUL LUANDA
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 01415

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, ETRD, UK

SUBJ: COFFEE: REACTIONS TO PRODUCER/CONSUMER PRESS
STATEMENTS

REF: (A) LONDON 1274; (B) LONDON 1316; (C) LONDON 1330

1. AS PROMISED IN REF (C), THIS CABLE PROVIDES FULL
TEXT OF PHILLIP FOSTER'S (REUTERS) STORY HEADLINED "SOME
AFRICAN PRODUCERS UNHAPPY WITH CANTU'S STATEMENT."
BOTH LONDON TIMES AND FINANCIAL TIMES OF JANUARY 29
REPORTED CONSUMERS' STATEMENT, REF (B). TIMES,
UNDER HEADLINE, "MAJOR COFFEE ROW ERUPTS" REPORTED
BRAZIL VIEWS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE. INFORMED SOURCES
TOLD REUTERS THAT BRAZIL ALSO HAD HAD MISGIVINGS ABOUT
THE CONTENT OF SENOR CANTU'S STATEMENT BECAUSE, IN
ITS VIEW, IT DID NOT REPRESENT A TRUE RECORD OF THE
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PAGE 03 LONDON 01415 01 OF 02 291834Z

WEEKEND'S PRIVATE PRODUCER MEETING. THIS MEETING
CONCENTRATED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON MARKET ANALYSIS
AND THAT ATTITUDES TO RENEGOTIATION AND THE IMPACT
OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE ACT ON THE MARKET HAD NOT
BEEN DISCUSSED. UNQUOTE. THERE WERE NO RECRIMINATIONS
OR OTHER UNPLEASANTNESS IN MEETINGS MORNING OF JANUARY
29 (A STATISTICAL GROUP INCLUDING BRAZIL AND OAMCAF BUT
EXCLUDING MEXICO) AND BRAZIL REPS (RAFFAELLI, LIMA)

ASSURED SO FAR AS PRODUCERS ARE CONCERNED, MATTER AS
ISSUE BETWEEN PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS NOW CLOSED.

2. BEGIN FOSTER TEXT. LONDON JAN. 27 - SOME AFRICAN
COFFEE PRODUCERS ARE UNHAPPY WITH PARTS OF THE TEXT OF A
STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY BY COFFEE PRODUCER GROUP
CHAIRMAN FAUSTO CANTU PENA, INFORMED SOURCES SAID.
THE AFRICANS ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE
REFERENCE TO PRODUCER VIEWS ON THE RENEGOTIATION OF A
NEW INTERNATIONAL COFFEE AGREEMENT (ICA)--THE SUBJECT

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PAGE 01 LONDON 01415 02 OF 02 291838Z

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O R 291824Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7760

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

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PAGE 02 LONDON 01415 02 OF 02 291838Z

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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 01415

OF A SECOND WEEK OF TALKS BETWEEN PRODUCER AND CONSUMER
ICA MEMBERS WHICH BEGAN HERE TODAY.
THE STATEMENT BY CANTU, WHO IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF THE
MEXICAN COFFEE INSTITUTE, WAS ISSUED AFTER A PRIVATE
PRODUCER MEETING AT THE WEEKEND BUT THE SOURCES SAID
ATTITUDES TO RENEGOTIATION WERE NOT DISCUSSED AT THE
MEETING, WHICH CONCENTRATED ON MARKET ANALYSIS.
SOME AFRICANS ARE ALSO DISTURBED BY THE REFERENCE TO
AN ABSENCE OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF CONSUMERS
IN THE RENEGOTIATION TALKS, THE SOURCES SAID.
FRANCE, NETHERLANDS AND SWEDEN HAVE SUBMITTED

DETAIL PROPOSALS ON A NEW ICA STRUCTURE, WHILE THE CONSUMERS AS A GROUP HAVE HAD PRIVATE MEETINGS TO WORK OUT A COMMON NEGOTIATING POSITION, THEY SAID. THE SOURCES FELT THE REFERENCE WAS AIMED SPECIFICALLY AT THE US, THE WORLD'S LARGEST CONSUMER, WHICH WHILE TAKING A FULL PART IN THE DISCUSSIONS HAS INDICATED UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 LONDON 01415 02 OF 02 291838Z

THAT IT WILL NOT PRESENT A PROPOSAL OF ITS OWN AT THIS STAGE. THE SOURCES NOTED THAT SOME IMPORTANT PRODUCERS, INCLUDING MEXICO, HAD NOT YET SUBMITTED PROPOSALS AND THAT AT LEAST ONE MAJOR PRODUCER HAD PLAYED LITTLE PART IN THIS MOST RECENT ROUND OF ICA TALKS WHICH BEGAN LAST WEEK. THE SOURCES SAID SOME AFRICANS FEARED THAT THE LANGUAGE USED IN THE TEXT, WHICH ALSO REFERRED TO FORTHCOMING PRODUCER ATTEMPTS TO RAISE WORLD MARKET PRICES, COULD JEOPARDIZE ICA RENEGOTIATION AND COULD BE POLITICALLY UNWISE AT THIS STAGE OF THE TALKS. THE RENEGOTIATIONS MEETINGS HAVE PRODUCED VERY LITTLE SO FAR AND PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS HAVE ONLY AGREED ON THE NEED FOR A NEW AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE. THE SOURCES SAID SOME AFRICANS ARE ALSO UNHAPPY WITH THE WAY IN WHICH THE STATEMENT SINGLED OUT THE US TRADE ACT AS THE CAUSE OF COFFEE MARKET UNCERTAINTIES. THEY FELT THIS WAS A TRIVIAL FACTOR AND INSIGNIFICANT AT THIS TIME IN THE OVERALL WORLD MARKET CONTEXT. MEANWHILE, THE ROBUSTA PRODUCERS ARE SCHEDULED TO HOLD ANOTHER PRIVATE MEETING TONIGHT TO CONSIDER MARKET MATTERS AFTER A PRIVATE MEETING OF CONSUMERS WHO WILL DISCUSS THE CURRENT STATE OF ICA RENEGOTIATION. END TEXT. SPIERS

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Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
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05 JUL 2006

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